

I am writing to ask for your support of SB 209- An Act Concerning Funding for Reach out and Read.

As you are aware, Reach Out and Read is a very successful non-profit program that promotes early literacy. I was first exposed to Reach out and Read during my pediatric training and continue to use this program for my patients today. I practice in the north end of Hartford where many times the only new books the children receive are from their visits to the doctor.

We can all recall the joy of being handed something shiny and new that was just for us. Seeing a child's eyes light up when I hand them a brand new book that is just for them is more rewarding than words can describe. Not just encouraging parents to read to their child but also providing them with a means to help that occur is the right way to do it. Please help fund this worthy cause.

Thank you for your consideration.

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